

**Air Force Plan on Implementation of Executive Order 13329:  
Encouraging Innovation in Manufacturing  
Updated 10 Jul 2006**

**Background:** On February 26, 2004, Executive Order (EO) [13329](#) was signed by President George W. Bush requiring Federal agencies participating in either the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) or Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program, to the extent permitted by law and in a manner consistent with the mission of that department or agency, to give high priority within the SBIR and STTR programs to manufacturing-related research and development (R&D). “Manufacturing-related” is defined as “relating to manufacturing processes, equipment and systems; or manufacturing workforce skills and protection.”

Executive Order 13329 is intended to help ensure that Federal agencies properly and effectively assist the private sector in its manufacturing innovation so as to sustain a strong manufacturing sector in the United States economy by advancing innovation, including innovation in manufacturing, through small businesses. The Small Business Administration (SBA) requires each agency with an SBIR/STTR Program to develop a written plan on the implementation of EO 13329. This plan shall be developed in consultation with SBA and describe the processes and techniques to be employed “to give high priority within such programs to manufacturing-research and development to advance the policy set forth in Section 1 of EO 13329.”

**Implementation of EO 13329:** The Air Force SBIR/STTR program office establishes the following guidance on the implementation of EO 13329. Five specific areas are: 1) Creation of special manufacturing technology topics; 2) Emphasize the EO in topic generation and award selection; 3) Emphasizing new opportunities for manufacturing-related research in SBIR/STTR; 4) Track manufacturing-related SBIR/STTR awards; and 5) Use outreach and small business workshops to raise awareness for small businesses. Each area is described in more detail below.

**1) Creation of Special Manufacturing Technology topics**

**Target Dates/Milestones:**

May 2006	Add special manufacturing technology “extended” topic that, if successful will lead directly to a Title 3 contract certifying production capability (implanted in the FY2006.3 solicitation).
Jul 2006	Create a set aside of \$10M per year for special topics yearly for manufacturing technologies. This extra funding will allow for the additional development work necessary to demonstrate production capability.
Future	At future SBIR/STTR Conferences, provide information to small businesses on the Air Force plan for compliance to EO 13329.

**2) Emphasize the EO in Topic Generation and Award Selection**

**Target Dates/Milestones:**

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| Aug 2004 | In the updated SBIR process, the Air Force call for topics will, emphasize the EO and encourage all topic authors consider, when appropriate, adding a manufacturing component to the topic description. This will also encourage the product centers to evaluate their manufacturing needs as stand alone topics to be in addition to the 2 extended topics discussed above (implemented). |
| Aug 2004 | Phase I & II Selection When appropriate, the Air Force source selection authorities may use manufacturing-related projects as a “tie-breaker” in award selection (implemented).   |

### **3) Emphasize New Opportunities for Manufacturing-related Research**

#### **Target Dates/Milestones:**

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| Aug 2004 | Provide a link on the Air Force SBIR/STTR shopping mall web site to the Air Force Manufacturing Technologies website (implemented).<br>( <a href="http://www.ml.afrl.af.mil/mlm/default.html">http://www.ml.afrl.af.mil/mlm/default.html</a> ). |
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### **4) Tracking of Manufacturing-related SBIR/STTR Awards**

#### **Target Dates/Milestones:**

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| Aug 2004 | Run baseline of awards (average of awards made FY 2001-2003) by searching abstracts that contain any of the SBA-issued manufacturing-related terms, (as part of the Department of Defense (DoD) data compilation) (completed).   |
| Sep 2004 | Migrate SBA-issued terms related to manufacturing into the existing manufacturing related SBIR/STTR projects. Encourage all future topic authors, when appropriate, use the SBA authored “manufacturing” keywords (this will allow future comparisons to the baseline data) (completed). |

### **5) Outreach: Raise awareness of the EO to Small Business Community**

#### **Target Dates/Milestones:**

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| Oct 2004 | At the upcoming National SBIR/STTR Conference (October 2004) in Boise Idaho, coordinate with other SBIR/STTR agencies to include a specific session on manufacturing to give the issue more visibility (completed).  |
| Jun 2006 | Participate in Connecticut SBIR Outreach Conference on Manufacturing (completed).  |
| Future   | <p>Submit to DoD, as part of the Annual STTR/SBIR Report, all Phase I and Phase II awards related to manufacturing. The report shall contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the total number of the agency’s current manufacturing-related SBIR and STTR awards separated into Phase I and Phase II;</li> <li>▪ the total dollar value of the agency’s current manufacturing-related SBIR and STTR awards separated into Phase I and Phase II;</li> </ul> |

- Copies of published Air Force success stories that illustrate the beneficial impact of the manufacturing oriented SBIR or STTR projects.
- A histogram of the Air Force's percentage of manufacturing-related SBIR and STTR projects, separated into Phase I and Phase II; and
- any other significant actions the Air Force has taken to advance and give high priority to manufacturing-related research and development.